

BEFORE THE
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268-0001

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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Complaint on Sunday
and Holiday Collections

Docket No. C2001-1

RESPONSES OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
TO CARLSON INTERROGATORIES DFC/USPS-22 - 24
(June 21, 2001)

DFC/USPS-22 - 24 were filed on June 7, 2001. The Postal Service hereby provides its responses. Each interrogatory is stated verbatim, and followed by the response.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

Daniel J. Foucheaux
Chief Counsel
Ratemaking


Eric P. Koetting
Attorney

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20260-1137
(202) 268-2992/ FAX: -5402
June 21, 2001

**RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO
INTERROGATORIES OF DOUGLAS F. CARLSON**

DFC/USPS-22. Please confirm the following information concerning collection boxes located in Mobile, Alabama:

- a. The collection-times labels on some collection boxes show one or more times for holiday collections.
- b. On some collection boxes that show one or more holiday collection times, an asterisk appears next to the holiday collection time. Elsewhere on the label, a note preceded by an asterisk appears on the label indicating that the holiday collection time does not apply on New Year's Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.
- c. A customer could reasonably have concluded that First-Class Mail deposited in a collection box described in this interrogatory on Memorial Day in 2001 would be collected and processed on Memorial Day if the mail was deposited prior to the final holiday collection time posted on the collection box.
- d. The Mobile P&DC did not process outgoing First-Class Mail on Memorial Day in 2001.
- e. First-Class Mail deposited in collection boxes in Mobile prior to the final posted holiday collection time on Memorial Day in 2001 was not, in fact, collected and processed on Memorial Day in 2001.

If you do not confirm, please explain and confirm any part that you can confirm.

RESPONSE:

- a. Confirmed.
- b. Confirmed.
- c. If the label on the box was as described in part b. of the question, it would not be unreasonable for a mailer to expect that the posted holiday time applied on Memorial Day.
- d.&e. According to the information presented in USPS-LR-2, Mobile reported no cancellations on Memorial Day, 2001. This would suggest that mail deposited in

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INTERROGATORIES OF DOUGLAS F. CARLSON**

collection boxes in Mobile on Memorial Day, whether or not collected on Memorial Day, would not have been processed until the following day.

**RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO
INTERROGATORIES OF DOUGLAS F. CARLSON**

DFC/USPS-23. Please provide a photocopy of a collection-times label for a collection box in Mobile, Alabama, that shows a holiday collection time as well as the information in the notation described in DFC/USPS-22(b). If possible, please provide a copy of the label for the collection box with location ID number 3660700024.

RESPONSE:

Attached are two pages. The first page shows the collection-times label for the box in Mobile AL with location ID 3660700024 as printed by the District Office using the CBMS. The second page shows the material added by the local office using a stand-alone ink-jet printer. The label actually on the box apparently displays both sets of information, which is the result achieved by overprinting the second set of information on the original label.



UNITED STATES
POSTAL SERVICE

COLLECTION TIMES

Monday - Friday

2:45 PM
5:00 PM

Saturday

2:45 PM

Sunday

Holiday

3:15 PM
5:00 PM

Last Collection in this area is at:

3410 BEL AIR BLVD

Monday-Friday

8:00 PM

Saturday

3:00 PM

Sunday

Holiday

Location of Express Mail Drop:

3410 BEL AIR BLVD

For local information call:

(800) 275-8777

Location ID No.:

3660700024

Date label printed:

06/12/01

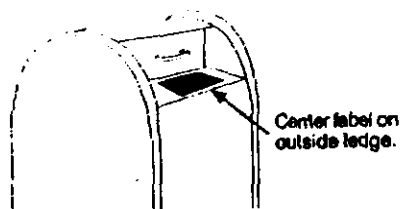
188 BAY SHORE AVE

Tampering with this box, lock, or contents is punishable by fine or imprisonment.

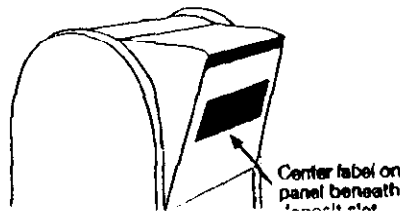
ITEM DEC 55-B August 1993

Application Instructions:

- For best results, apply the label at temperatures above 40 degrees fahrenheit.
- Check condition of the surface where the label is to be applied.
 - Remove rust and loose paint - prime if necessary.
 - Make sure the surface is clean, dry and free of wax or oil.
 - Any good household detergent should remove contaminants.
 - Finally, wipe the surface with a clean dry cloth.
- After positioning the label, apply by firmly wiping or pressing from the center outward to remove air bubbles.



Center label on
outside ledge.



Center label on
panel beneath
mailbox door.

188 BAY SHORE AVE
CRICHTON STATION

Location: _____

Location ID No.: 3660700024

Button Number: 000000595E

Date installed: _____

By: _____



UNITED STATES
POSTAL SERVICE

COLLECTION TIMES

Monday - Friday

Special Holiday Collection Note:
Holiday Pickup for all holidays except:
New Years, Independence, Labor,
Thanksgiving, and Christmas Days.

Saturday

Sunday

Holiday

*See Holiday Note!

Last Collection in this area is at:

Monday-Friday

Saturday

Sunday

Holiday

Location of Express Mail Drop:

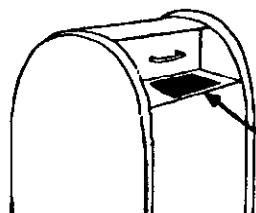
For local information call:

Location ID No.:

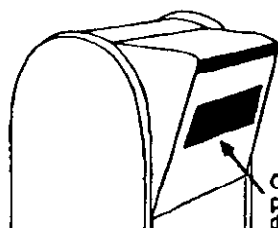
Date label printed

Tampering with this box, lock, or contents is punishable by fine or imprisonment.

ITEM DEC 55-B August 1993



Center label on
outside ledge.



Center label on
panel beneath
deposit slot.

Application Instructions:

- For best results, apply the label at temperatures above 40 degrees fahrenheit.
- Check condition of the surface where the label is to be applied.
 - Remove rust and loose paint - prime if necessary.
 - Make sure the surface is clean, dry and free of wax or oil.
 - Any good household detergent should remove contaminants.
 - Finally, wipe the surface with a clean dry cloth.
- After positioning the label, apply by firmly wiping or rolling from the center outward to remove air bubbles. Puncture bubbles that cannot be worked out with a pin, and carefully rewipe or reroll.

Location: _____

Location ID No. : _____

Button Number: _____

Date Installed: _____

By: _____

Signature: _____

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DFC/USPS-24. Please confirm that the Collection Box Management System is capable of producing the notation described in DFC/USPS-22(b) for collection-times labels for collection boxes. If you do not confirm, please explain how the notation described in DFC/USPS-22(b) was applied to collection-times labels in Mobile, Alabama.

RESPONSE:

The Collection Box Management System is not capable of producing the notation described in DFC/USPS-22(b). It was produced locally by a stand-alone program using an ink-jet printer.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that, in accordance with section 12 of the Rules of Practice, I have this day served the foregoing document upon:

Douglas F. Carlson
P.O. Box 7868
Santa Cruz CA 95061-7868

David B. Popkin
P.O. Box 528
Englewood NJ 07631-0528


Eric P. Koetting

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20260-1137
(202) 268-2992/ FAX: -5402
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